

Building 225 Historic Narrative

Administrative Support Facility Annex (Building 225)

Description

The Administrative Support Facility Annex (Building 225) is a rectangular building located at the intersection of Theta Link and Sixth Street directly south (of Plant North) of Building 226. The building is single-story with aluminum siding on all exterior walls and approximate dimensions of 103 feet in length and 40 feet wide with a gross square footage of 4,325 square feet. Improvements were made in 1991 that added 200 square feet to the Building. Original construction features included a concrete foundation, concrete and tile floors, metal walls, and a metal roof. The original facility layout remains unchanged and consists of administrative support offices separated along a central hallway that runs the length of the building. The facility was originally designated as the Space Science Interim Facility. In 1974, Building 225 was given its current designation as the Administrative Support Facility Annex. In 1991 a covered walkway was built to connect Building 225 with Building 226 that added 200 square feet.

Facility Functions

In 1972, the building was used for the Lunar Data Bank, Site 1. Data gathered from the lunar missions were stored there for development of mission maps. This task was moved in 1973 and the Procurement Operations Division moved in until 1976. The Quality Assurance Division of the Safety and Mission Assurance Office (NA) who operated the Safety Learning Center (SLC) in Building 226N then moved in and in 1991 a covered walkway, 1CW, was built to connect Building 225 with Building 226. The SLC remained in Building 226N until December 2012 when they were integrated back into the NA facility in Building 20. In addition to NA operations, Building 225 also briefly supported Center Institutional Safety Support (CISS) contractors before they moved into Building 226 in 2004. Subsequently, Building 225 began to support the JSC Office of Procurement as a Source Selection Board facility who was its last occupant. Although Building 225 was constructed at least fifty years ago (ca. December 1968), it is a common governmental administrative support facility.

Evaluation

Building 225 consists of architectural features and construction commonly known in the area and across government installations in the 1960s, but the National Register criteria does not dismiss resources as insignificant simply because there are numerous examples of the type. National Register eligibility for any property, including Historic period sites, depends largely on integrity and significance. Integrity for a Historic period site or district is based on the presence of features and whether or not they can tell us something about the location. An architectural inventory was conducted at Building 225 to determine if unique features are present. The Administrative Support Facility Annex has no specific features that “embody distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction” (Criterion C). Most of the basic construction components (e.g., foundation, framework, and siding) retain their original integrity with

minor changes to the interior layout and construction materials used. Integrity alone, however, does not automatically include or exclude this site as eligible for the National Register. Interviews and in-depth historic research revealed no significant historical occurrences or individuals associated with the building.

The structure meets none of the criteria for inclusion on the NRHP as it lacks unique historic design and is not associated with activities or people of national importance. During this historic investigation, the Administrative Support Facility Annex (Building 225) was demolished as part of the federal governments footprint reduction mandate, consequently Building 225 has no integrity and is not considered part of the JSC Historic District.

Demolition Determination

Over the years, Building 225 had deteriorated to the point that it was no longer cost effective to maintain and operate. The roof rusted and deteriorated and was in need of replacement. The exterior paint was peeling and had begun to rust through in places. Exterior doors were rusting and the interior was in poor condition. The air handler had deteriorated and needed to be replaced. Piping in the building was leaking. As JSC's Maintenance and Operations budgets continued to decline over the years coupled with the requirement to reduce the Federal footprint, the older, deteriorated and inefficient buildings are being targeted for demolition rather than restoration. Building 225 was demolished on August 21, 2014.